

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Belorussian SSR)

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT The Belynichy Kolkhoz imeni Shlyakh Selyanina

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REFERENCES

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1. The Belynichy Kolkhoz imeni Shlyakh Selyanina was located near the town of Belynichy [N 53-95, E 29-44]. At the head of the kolkhoz was a chairman (starshina) who had a staff of about 15 people, including a part-time agronomist, who [REDACTED] served several kolkhozy, a veterinarian, a blacksmith, a bookkeeper, and others [REDACTED]. There were also two brigade leaders who were in charge of brigades of about 400-500 people. (Before World War II there had been four brigades; in 1945 or 1946, they were reorganized as two.) Brigade leaders were elected by the kolkhoz workers from a list of candidates selected by the kolkhoz chairman; they were usually elected yearly, but the chairman could keep them on as long as he wished. These two brigade leaders issued work assignments to kolkhoz workers and estimated the time worked and amount of work performed. The record of the type and amount of work done was then given to the bookkeeping office of the kolkhoz, where the number of work-days (trudoden') earned was determined. At the end of each month every kolkhoz worker received a booklet which showed the number of work-days earned during the month. If a kolkhoz worker thought he had earned more work-days than indicated by this booklet, he could complain to the kolkhoz chairman, although invariably he would be unsuccessful in his plea.
2. Winter and spring rye was the principal crop raised by the kolkhoz; other crops were wheat, oats, barley, buckwheat, beets for fodder (but no sugar beets), potatoes, sunflowers, a considerable amount of flax, and some kind of fertilizer. [REDACTED] the soil in the Belynichy area was average; some chernozem, but mostly sandy. [No further information on crops.]

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